

11 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 236-1313
(317) 231-7433 Fax

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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Applicant: WATZELE, Manfred;
 BUCHBERGER, Bernd; PAULUS,
 Michael

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FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT
Attention: DO/EO/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified national patent application submitted herewith, applicants request entry of the following amendments.

Amendments to the Description begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 14 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 18 of this paper.